

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH October 26, 2010

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee held a meeting on this date at 6:00 p.m. in the Jr. – Sr. High School Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Teri Maia-Cicero, Vice-Chairperson; Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; Mark Rafanelli; Mary Walsh; Valerie Zuercher; and Robert Bollengier. Director of Administration Robert V. Ross, Director of Special Services Carmella Farrar, and Student Member Matthew French were present. Superintendent Thomas J. Geismar was absent.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Member Zuercher read the District Mission Statement.

Open Forum – Members of Cub Scout Pack 235-West Greenwich introduced themselves to the School Committee. Audience member Chris Southworth explained that the scouts are attending tonight's meeting as part of the requirements to earn a Citizens in the Community merit badge.

Student Member Matthew French arrived at this time, (6:02 p.m.).

Presentation – Student Member Report – Student Member Matthew French reported that Spirit Week took place last week and it went fairly well. Matthew said that this year’s Spirit Week seemed to have less rivalry between classes than in previous years. Matthew said that the Homecoming events that were held over the weekend went very well.

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA- Chair DeSack gave an overview of the Consent Agenda. She informed members that the home school request [item V. D. 1.] listed in the Agenda Detail was withdrawn, therefore, the motion to accept the consent agenda will need to exclude that item.

Member Bollengier made a motion to accept the consent agenda conditional upon the withdrawal of item V. D. 1. Clerk Coutcher seconded the motion.

Member Rafanelli requested to pull consent agenda item, V. B. 1. a. for discussion.

Member Bollengier amended his motion to approve the consent agenda conditional on item V. D. 1. being withdrawn and not considered and item V. B. 1. a. deferred until the end of the meeting. Clerk Coutcher seconded the motion. Voted 6 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

The following items were approved:

A. Approval of Minutes - Regular Minutes of October 12, 2010

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments

a. Pulled

2. Leaves of Absence

3. Resignations

4. Grievances

5. Non-Renewals

6. Recalls – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

a. Please see attached

7. Sabbaticals

C. Bills – In the amount of \$313,818.51

D. Home School Approvals

1. Request was Withdrawn

End Consent Agenda

Agenda

Budget 2010 – 2011 – Director of Administration Robert Ross told the School Committee that a Budget update is forthcoming at the Business Meeting on November 9, 2010.

NEW BUSINESS – Sr. High Sunday River Trip Proposal – Member Rafanelli made a motion to approve the senior high Sunday River trip proposal. Member Bollengier seconded the motion. Voted 6 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

Sr. Class Trip Proposal – Vice Chair Cicero arrived at this time, (6:07 p.m.).

Senior Class Advisor Josh Bednarczyk disseminated informational handouts to members, gave an overview of the Sr. Class Trip itinerary, and answered members' questions regarding hotel security and the timeframe of the trip as it relates to the Sr. Project presentation schedule.

Member Zuercher made a motion to approve the Sr. Class Trip. Member Bollengier seconded the motion. Voted 7 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Approval Charter Amendments Discussion – Chair DeSack reported that Attorney Gorham has not yet responded

to the committees' requests made at the last meeting. This item will continue to the November 9 meeting agenda.

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Student Information System (SIS) Report – Director of Administration
Robert Ross reported that he met with Harris (SchoolMax) today to let them know that the district is

considering changing its SIS provider. Mr. Ross said that Harris realizes that it has not been able to handle taking over the RINET SchoolMax accounts without substantial issues. Mr. Ross told the committee that one key component not working under Harris was Daily Attendance. He advised that he would be bringing information for startup with a new vendor for this year to the next School Committee meeting. Chair DeSack requested that Mr. Ross bring cost comparisons and projections on the company to the next meeting. She also requested that Mr. Ross make sure that the company that will service the district has the capability to meet the district's current and future needs. Mr. Ross briefly described the range of components offered to the district through the purchase of one comprehensive system. Chair DeSack recommended that Mr. Ross seek collaboration with other districts as a means of cost savings. Mr. Ross agreed and reported that Coventry Schools are interested and are on the same track as EWG. He said that one

substantial issue is the training component. If the districts can enter into training together that may be a way to save. Member Rafanelli agreed with Mr. Ross' plan to purchase a more comprehensive system but he asked that Mr. Ross also make sure there is a good level of security and confidentiality within the system.

Capital Project Update – Director of Administration Robert Ross reported that the Capital Project Building Committee would meet on Thursday. He said that the Building Committee is struggling with issues on a couple of final items. A favorable outcome to the issues will be discussed on Thursday. One of the issues is to bring the security system to a conclusion. Currently security cameras are located at all points of entry at each school. A security component that the committee will be looking at on Thursday is the actual card swipe system. Mr. Ross gave his opinion that this component of the security system is really going to be more about a cultural shift for the EWG community. Vice Chair Cicero asked what would be done about those doors that are propped open. Mr. Ross suggested that a decision could be made to implement the new security component in a robust manner or it could be phased in gradually. He said that the office locations would monitor if doors were open/ajar. Next, Mr. Ross reported that there have been reports of an odor associated with the new heating system at Lineham School. That is just now being brought online for the first time since the work was completed. Mr. Plumley is evaluating the origin of the odor. All feedback has been good and very positive on other systems installed during the bond

project.

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Policies – Review/Adoption – Chair DeSack reminded member that policies 8402, 1101, 1102, 1401, 1501, 8401, and 8509/8510 are presented tonight for second reading. She said that the committee has already reviewed these policies and the modifications that were recommended at the last meeting have been made. Members did not offer any further recommendations for modification. Chair DeSack advised that these policies would continue to the November 9 meeting agenda for adoption.

8402: Enrolling Foreign Students – 2nd Reading –

**1101: The School Committee and Its Responsibilities and Duties –
2nd Reading –**

1102: Superintendent's Duties and Responsibilities – 2nd Reading –

1401: School Committee's Public Interactions – 2nd Reading –

1501: Policy Manual – 2nd Reading –

8401: Admission of Students – 2nd Reading –

**8509/8510: Managing Controlled Substances in the School Setting –
2nd Reading –**

Reports/Comments – Chair DeSack informed members that the time of this Thursday's National Honor Society (NHS) Induction Ceremony has been changed to 6:00 p.m.

Member Bollengier said that he had planned on attending the NHS Induction Ceremony on Thursday, however, now he will not be able to because it has been changed to exactly the same time as the Capital Project Building Committee meeting time.

Chair DeSack reverted to the item [V. B. 1. a.], which was pulled from the consent agenda by Member Rafanelli.

Member Rafanelli referenced the resume enclosed in members' packets and said that it does not contain information regarding Mr. Burns' qualifications as an assistant coach to the softball team. Mr. Ross explained that Mr. Burns has been a substitute teacher in the district since 2006. Member Rafanelli said that he would like to see an updated resume. This item will remain pulled and will carry to the next meeting agenda. Mr. Burns will be required to attend the next meeting as a candidate for consideration.

Member Rafanelli made a motion to pull Mr. Burns' appointment to

the next meeting agenda. Vice Chair Cicero seconded the motion. Voted 7 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

The following consent agenda item will continue to the November 9, 2010 meeting:

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA – Personnel Items – Appointments – (As Recommended by the Superintendent) –
a. Scott Burns as Girls' Assistant Softball Coach, Stipend \$2,696.91, effective for the 2010/11 season.

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Important Dates and Meetings –Tuesday, November 9, 2010-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, November 23, 2010-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, December 7, 2010-School Committee Meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RIGL 42-46-4 and RIGL 42-46-5 – None

Adjournment – Vice Chair Cicero made a motion to adjourn. Member Bollengier seconded the motion. Voted 7 – 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

ROBIN CERIO
CLERK